



Buy
Him

Something useful—some-
thing he can

Wear

And by all means go to a
man's store to buy it.

Smoking Jackets,
Bath Robes,
Gloves,
Neckwear,
Mufflers,
Suspenders,
Combination Sets,
Phoenix Knitted
Mufflers,
Umbrellas,
Reefer Mufflers,
Shirts or Underwear,
Hats or Caps,
Suit or Overcoat.

D. May & Co.

Broad and Fourth Streets.

FIRE IN LONDON

Three Lives Lost, While Damage Runs
Into Millions.

LONDON, December 21.—A disastrous fire, entailing the loss of three lives and the destruction of the big drapery store of Arding & Hobbs at Clapham, a southwestern quarter of London, occurred to-day. The fire was due, it is believed, to the breaking of an electric bulb, which started a blaze among celluloid articles beneath. It occurred when the store, covering an acre of ground, was crowded with customers. In but little more than an hour the building was a mass of ruins. The damage is estimated in the vicinity of \$2,500,000.

All the customers made their way out of the store in safety, and the 300 employees followed them. The progress of the flames, which was assisted by the Christmas decorations and festoons, was so rapid that some of the employees were caught in the upper floors.

One of the girls descended the fire escape in safety, and the two men jumped and also were killed. Many persons were assisted from the windows by the firemen, and several of the employees were seriously injured, a few possibly fatally. Some of the employees are unaccounted for.

SOLDIER KILLS HIMSELF

He Had Been Discharged From Army
and Refused Re-Enlistment.

ATLANTA, Ga., December 21.—Because he had been dishonorably discharged from the United States Army and then refused re-enlistment, a soldier named Carrigan committed suicide to-day by shooting himself with an army rifle in the cook's quarters at Fort McPherson. Carrigan was serving a sentence of one year at hard labor for leaving his post of duty without permission.

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CONGRESS

Vigorous Recommendations by
Interstate Commerce Com-
mission.

AMENDMENTS NEEDED

Railroads Show Large Increase
in Net Earnings for
1909.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 21.—

Vigorous recommendations for changes in the present law regulating transportation companies are contained in the twenty-third annual report of the Interstate Commerce Commission, transmitted to-day to the Congress.

Notwithstanding the recommendations made, however, the report, in this respect, is notable rather for what it does not, than for what it does contain. Five of the suggestions made by the special committee selected by President Taft to draft changes in the existing interstate commerce act are offered in the report. It is known that the commission, as a body, favors the plans proposed by that committee; but, as a matter of courtesy, it has refrained, in its report, from discussing the changes in advance of the special message on the subject which President Taft has indicated he will send to the Congress.

The commission expresses its conviction that certain amendments to present law are necessary to enable it fully to accomplish the purposes of Congress. Briefly summarized, the proposed amendments are as follows:

Physical Valuation of Roads.

That a physical valuation be made of the interstate railroads of the country. The commission points to the difficulty experienced in certain cases where its orders are attacked in court in meeting the testimony as to physical value offered by the carriers, and says that if its rates are to be defended, some method must be furnished by which a value can be established which shall be binding on the courts and the commission.

The commission again suggests that it be given power to prevent advances in rates or changes in regulations or practices to the disadvantage of the shippers, pending an investigation into the reasonableness of the proposed change. It is stated that where a rate has been in effect for years it is presumably reasonable, and that there would be no hardship on the carrier in giving the commission authority to require continuance of the rate until opportunity had been afforded to investigate the proposed advance.

The commission's authority to establish a joint rate and through route is limited to cases where no such route exists, and the commission recommends that this limitation be stricken out of the law, so that it may establish a through route wherever, upon investigation, it is found that the public necessity and convenience require such action. A further recommendation is to the effect that in certain instances the shipper be permitted to direct the intermediate routing of his traffic. It is further requested that the law be so amended as to give the commission undoubted authority to enter a corrective order as the result of an investigation instituted by the commission upon its own motion.

Control of Capitalization.

The commission again calls to the attention of Congress the increasing importance of some form of Federal control over railway capitalization, and expresses the opinion that adequate legislation upon this subject is required.

The annual reports to the commission from the carriers show that for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1909, the gross operating revenues of all railroads in the United States were \$2,461,521,845, and the operating income (net revenue less operating expenses and taxes) was \$656,133,221. For 1909 the operating revenue was \$2,494,115,589, and the operating income \$742,987,191, indicating an in-

crease for 1909 of \$32,594,244 in gross earnings, and \$86,855,970 in net earnings. The average number of miles operated in 1909 was 223,154, and in 1908, 233,002. The large increase in net as compared with gross earnings is accounted for by a reduction of operating expenses in 1909 below those of 1908 of \$59,224,953.

The report indicates that a larger number of formal complaints was filed with the commission in 1909 than in 1908. During the last year 1,097 formal proceedings were instituted, and during the same period 785 formal cases were disposed of. Approximately 9,000 informal complaints, of which about half involved formal repairs, claims, were adjusted during the year. Six hundred and one hearings and investigations—an average of two for each working day—all involving alleged violations of the interstate com-

merce act, were held at sessions of the commission in Washington and in various cities of the country, at which 61,000 pages of testimony were taken.

Indictments for Violations.

Since December 1, 1908, thirty-five indictments for criminal violations of the interstate commerce law have been returned, and forty-two prosecutions have been concluded. Practically all of the prosecutions were for some form of rebate or concessions. The fines collected under these indictments aggregated \$304,233.84. The opinion is expressed that violations of the law, such as rebating in one form or in another, is decreasing.

Some account is given of the proceedings had during the year in the enforcement of the safety appliance law, and the commission states that the results in this respect are gratifying. In

1909 the number of men employed in coupling and uncoupling cars for each one killed was 349, while in 1908 the number employed for each one killed was 583. The number of men employed in coupling and uncoupling cars for each one injured in 1909 was thirteen, while in 1908 it was sixty-two. Stated in another way, the number of men killed in coupling and uncoupling cars for each 1,000 employed was three in 1909 and one in 1908, while the number of injuries for each 1,000 men employed in this service was seventy-seven in 1909 and sixteen in 1908.

In that part of the report devoted to statistics and accounts, detailed figures respecting railroad operations for 1908 and 1909 are given, and the work of the commission in the formulation of a uniform system of accounting is described, and satisfaction is expressed with the results obtained.

COURT TAKES RECESS

When It Reconvenes Judge Lurton May

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 21.—After announcing a number of decisions and hearing the usual Monday quota of motions, the Supreme Court of the United States yesterday took a recess for two weeks.

It is expected that when the court reconvenes on January 3 one of the seats now vacant will be occupied by Judge Lurton, who to-day was confirmed by the Senate as the successor of Justice Peckham. Even then the bench will not be full, as Justice Moody will be absent on account of illness.

Mr. Moody has not been able to be in the courtroom since the beginning of the present term, and he is not expected there until later in the season. Justice Moody has been suffering from an aggravated attack of rheumatism. Immediately after reconvening the court will take up the tobacco trust case, and it is expected that the Standard Oil case will be reached early in the spring. A full bench is always considered most desirable in cases of so much importance, because of the possibility of an evenly divided court in the absence of one member.

FOR DIRECT PRIMARIES

Chairman Norman E. Mack Is Out With
Signed Statement.

BUFFALO, N. Y., December 21.—Chairman Norman E. Mack, of the Democratic National Committee, in a signed statement comes out solidly for direct primaries in the January number of the National Monthly. Chairman Mack says in part: "The direct primary may make and unmake political leaders, and even political parties, before another year. It is possible to stop it in the New York State Legislature at the coming session, but it will smash the Republican party in New York to do it. And by reason of the enemy's condition, the opportunity for the Democracy becomes all the greater. The people of New York State will have a direct primary system."

"The average voter wants the direct primary. If the Democracy of New York is wise in this day it will not lose this splendid opportunity."

EXPELLED FROM TRINITY

Eight Students Forced by the Faculty
to Leave College.

DURHAM, N. C., December 21.—Eight young men were expelled from Trinity College to-day. Trinity has been free of hazing many years, but last night seven boys came into a freshman to see which was to plunge into a cold water tank. The freshman lost, and was caught in the act of paying the forfeit by the faculty. The young men pleaded not guilty to hazing, but President Kilgo declared them guilty of gambling, and the freshman



Continuation Sale

RICHMOND'S GREATEST SALE OF FURS AND FUR COATS

Was launched at J. B. Mosby & Co.'s Monday morning, and will continue until Xmas Eve. Several thousands dollars' worth arriving by express to-day. We have the **Greatest Fur News**, which has set the town talking. When we say **Greatest**, it means all the word implies—**Greatest** in assortment and **Greatest** in value-giving. Here's the story:

"One of New York's largest Furriers, maker of fine Neck Furs and Fur Coats exclusively, wired us if we could use \$10,000 worth of fine Furs, and to make him an offer on a cash basis. We made him an offer over the telephone, which was accepted. They all go on sale for this week's selling only."

When we tell you that partially \$10,000 worth of this season's choicest, newest and most fashionable Furs and Fur Coats, including Black Foxes, Minks, Black Lynx, White and Brown Foxes, Chinchilla, Ermine, etc., Pony Coats in 36-, 45-, 50-, 52- and 54-inch lengths, Caracul Coats 36, 40, 50 and 52 inches long, Near-Seal and Mink Coats in the long and short lengths

We Have Paralyzed Competition

Beautiful Furs will be offered you at lower prices than you have ever bought fine Furs before. In this sale you will find more kinds of Furs and better Furs than were ever offered in Richmond before, and at a **Net Saving** of from 25% to 33%. **Remember**, more than 1,000 pieces of every good kind and description, and also remember that the J. B. MOSBY & CO. guarantee goes with every piece of Fur in this sale. Just in time for Xmas buying, and Furs, you know, make a choice gift.

Special

50-Inch Pony Coats Worth \$100

Now **\$49.50**

Special

Black Fox Set, Rug Muff and Neck Fur, Trimmed
With Heads and Tails, Was \$100

Now **\$49.50**

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Only a Few Days Remain in Which to Make Your Final Presents

There are probably a number of presents you have not yet selected and are racking your brain to think of something appropriate. Our magnificent stock contains such a variety there is bound to be something that will "Fill the Bill"—let us suggest the following—there are thousands of others; something for every member of your family, for every friend, every acquaintance:

Brass Desk Sets	\$5.50 to \$25.00
Art and Craft Ware Novelties	\$5.00 to \$25.00
Brass Ink Stands	\$2.50 to \$15.00
Wood Craft Calendars	10c to \$ 5.00
Children's Pencils, assorted	25c to \$ 1.00
Desk Portfolios	\$1.50 to \$ 7.50
Jewelry Cases	75c to \$17.50
Desk Pads	75c to \$ 5.00
Stationery Novelties	50c to \$ 5.00
Waste Baskets	50c to \$ 3.50
Brass Novelties	25c to \$ 5.00
Address Books	25c to \$ 2.50
Art Novelties	10c to \$ 2.50
Crane's Box Paper	50c to \$10.00
Waterman's Fountain Pens	\$2.50 to \$35.00
Gents' Bill Rolls	50c to \$ 7.50
Christmas Cards	5c to \$ 1.00
Framed Mission Pictures	10c to \$ 3.50



Ladies' Card Cases	50c to \$ 5.00
Pocket Flasks	\$1.25 to \$ 8.50
Bridge Sets	\$2.50 to \$ 7.50
Brass Book Racks	\$1.75 to \$10.00
Billiken Novelties	25c to \$5.00
Gents' Wallets	50c to \$10.00

Virginia Stationery Company,

915 East Main Street.

"Engravers to Those Who Know."

SAM ISEMAN, Pres. & Gen'l Mgr.

Open evenings till 9 o'clock.

American Red Cross Stamps For Sale.

workers. Almost all the members of the union, which is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, are women. Three large meetings in different sections of the city were held to-night in place of the one meeting planned to be held in one of the theatres of the city, which was forbidden by the Police Department.

MRS. BELMONT HELPS GIRLS

Appears at Court at 3 o'clock in Morning to Assist Strikers.

NEW YORK, December 21.—Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont demonstrated in the small, early hours of to-day that she has the interests of her sex of the working class at heart.

Three o'clock this morning found her in the night court awaiting the disposition of the cases of four women shirtwaist workers, charged with disorderly conduct in connection with the strike. Several lawyers had been retained by Mrs. Belmont to defend the strikers, but with the approach of morning they had disappeared, and when the girls were called to the bar no one was present to appear for them.

"Is your house worth \$800?" inquired Magistrate Butts, in routine manner and tone. "I think it is," replied Mrs. Belmont. "It is valued at \$400,000, but I think there may be a mortgage upon it for \$100,000 which I raised to help the shirtwaist strikers and the woman suffrage movement."

The security was accepted.

Nominations Sent to Senate.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 21.—Among the nominations sent to the Senate to-day by the President were Hugh L. McKee, to be postmaster at Atlanta, and Charles H. West, of Greenville, Miss., to be a member of the Mississippi River Commission, an appointment which was agreed upon yesterday.

DEMAND RECOGNITION AND A NINE-HOUR DAY

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., December 21.—Demanding recognition of their union, a nine-hour day, a fifty-hour week and uniform prices which means an increase of 20 per cent. in their wages, the 8,000 members of the ladies' garment-makers' union of this city to-night unanimously voted in favor of a strike, to be inaugurated to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. They expect to be joined by 3,000 non-union



"Here's a
Beauty"

That is what some of the best-dressed women in town have pronounced the Women's Regal Shoe style shown here—and we have many other Regal models just as dainty and smart as this one.

REGAL SHOES FOR WOMEN

are acknowledged to be the only ready-to-wear shoes that reproduce the latest New York custom styles while they are new. These Regal models are bound to win your admiration. Let us show them to you.

\$350 \$400 and \$500
Watkins, Bibb & Malone,
611 E. Broad Street.

Lovers of Luxury.

We have the finest assortment of Candies to be seen anywhere in the city, consisting not only of our own make, but the famous "Samoalet" and "Maillard" in one five pound boxes or baskets. When ordering your Christmas Cream be sure to place your order with us if you want Cream of the highest quality. We use only the purest ingredients in its manufacture. It is the quality of our Cream that has brought us the patronage of the best families in Richmond.

Give us your order to-day.

CHERRY'S,

CORNER BROAD AND SEVENTH STS.
Madison 7237 and 7331.